



policy NEWS.

QUICK FACTS ON THE CHANGES TO NPR 8621.1B

POLICY: NASA Procedural Requirements (NPR) for Mishap and Close Call Reporting, Investigating and Recordkeeping, NPR 8621.1B

WHEN: Effective July 15, 2013

WHAT: Figure 1 was updated to reflect changes to NASA mishap classifications. A Type B injury now involves a permanent partial disability **or** hospitalization of **three** or more people, rather than one. Type D property damage now ranges from **\$20,000** to \$50,000, rather than \$1,000 to \$50,000.

WHY: Reduces the time and resources dedicated to investigating relatively minor injuries and damage as well as delays in resolving any issues that led to the mishap. It also aligns NASA's classifications with the Department of Defense (DOD), which gives NASA an opportunity to use the DOD as a benchmark.

WHAT: Use of a **mishap investigation specialist** from the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance's Mishap Investigation Support Office (MISO) as the ex officio for Type A and Type B mishaps and for high visibility incidents **is recommended**.

WHY: Improves the efficiency and quality of investigations. Because the specialist sees all investigation reports, he or she has agency-wide knowledge of best practices and mistakes and can share that with the board.

WHAT: NASA Mishap Investigation Training is now required every **5 years** as opposed to every 3 years for the entire Mishap Investigation Board, including for the ex officio, consultants and advisors.

WHY: Reducing the frequency of required training leads to a reduction in travel expenses without diminishing performance.

WHAT: Appendix A clarifies the definition of aircraft mishaps, making a distinction between **flight and ground operations**.

WHY: Flight mishaps and ground operation mishaps are very different. This clarification allows the data to be separated, making it more meaningful.

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TAKE ACTION

These changes affect anyone involved with reporting or investigating a NASA mishap or close call. Review the policy to ensure compliance with all changes and requirements. When reporting a mishap or close call, account for the new mishap classification system and qualifications for flight and ground operations. All affected board members should adjust any scheduled mishap training to account for the longer duration between required refresher courses.

If you have questions about these changes, contact Gerry Schumann at Gerald.D.Schumann@nasa.gov.

or

View the official NASA document at
<http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/displayDir.cfm?t=NPR&c=8621&s=1B>
